

O P E R A T I O N S
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P A T E N T & T R A D E M A R K O F F I C E

PTO/SB/30 (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

RCE #
1700

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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to:
Commissioner for Patents
Box RCE
Washington, DC 20231

Application Number	09/783,719
Filing Date	16 Feb 01
First Named Inventor	Joseph D. Lichtenhan
Art Unit	1722
Examiner Name	M. Moore
Attorney Docket Number	AFB00563

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114

- a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b. Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. AF 01-0465

11/12/2002 MBERHE 00000071 010465 09783719	
i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)	01 FC:1801 740.00 CH
ii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)	02 FC:1202 162.00 CH
iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	03 FC:1201 252.00 CH
- b. Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
- c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

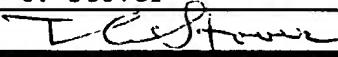
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Thomas C. Stover	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	22,531
Signature		Date	25 October 2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

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Air Force Invention No. AFB00563

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On 25 October 2002
(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

Thomas C. Stover 22,531
NAME OF APPLICANT, ASSIGNEE, OR REG. REP.

TS
11/19/02
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Thomas C. Stover
SIGNATURE DATE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re CIP Application of
Joseph D. Lichtenhan et al
Application Serial No. 09/783,719
Filed: 16 February 2001
For: **ALTERING OF POSS RINGS**

Group Art Unit: 1722
Examiner: M. Moore

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington D. C. 20231

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RCE 1700 MAIL ROOM
NOV 12 2002

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FILED WITH RCE

The following is in response to the Office Action dated 16 July 2002, finally rejecting claims 10, 12, and 16 – 29 in the above application and to the Advisory Action dated 8 October 2002. Accordingly, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend the following claims per the clean copy shown below, as subsequently explained by a marked-up version attached as Exhibit A.